

An aerial photograph of a river network in a watershed, showing a dense pattern of blue and white water channels. The text is overlaid on this image.

# Canada's Watersheds

Canadian Geography Course  
Lester B. Pearson

# Water plays a key role in Canada's Geography



**Think & Share:** What roles do you think water has  
a) in Canada's Geography?  
b) In the lives of Canadians?



# What will we cover?

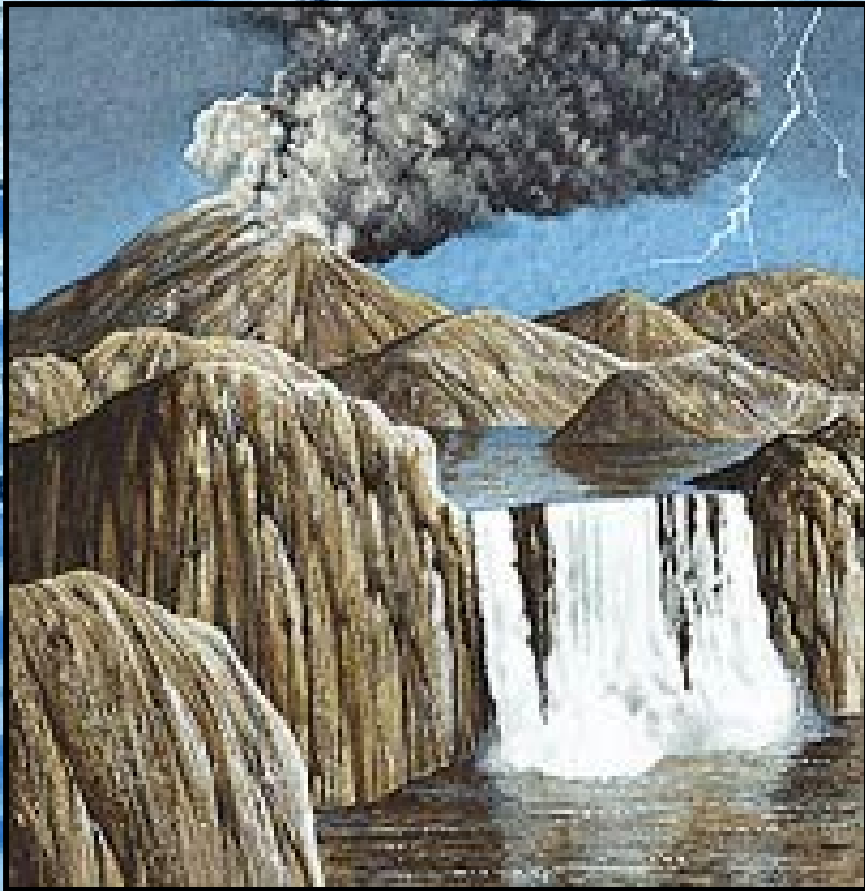
1. How has water & ice been involved in the formation of our Canadian landforms?
2. What are watersheds and where are they?
3. **Tomorrow:** What problems do Canada's watersheds face?  
**Field trip:** visit our local watershed

# How has water & ice been involved in creating our Canadian Landforms?



- Millions of years ago (*Precambrian era... when algae was the only living thing around*), the only existing part of Canada was the Canadian Shield (see red area on ancient continental plate map)

# How has water & ice been involved in creating our Canadian Landforms?



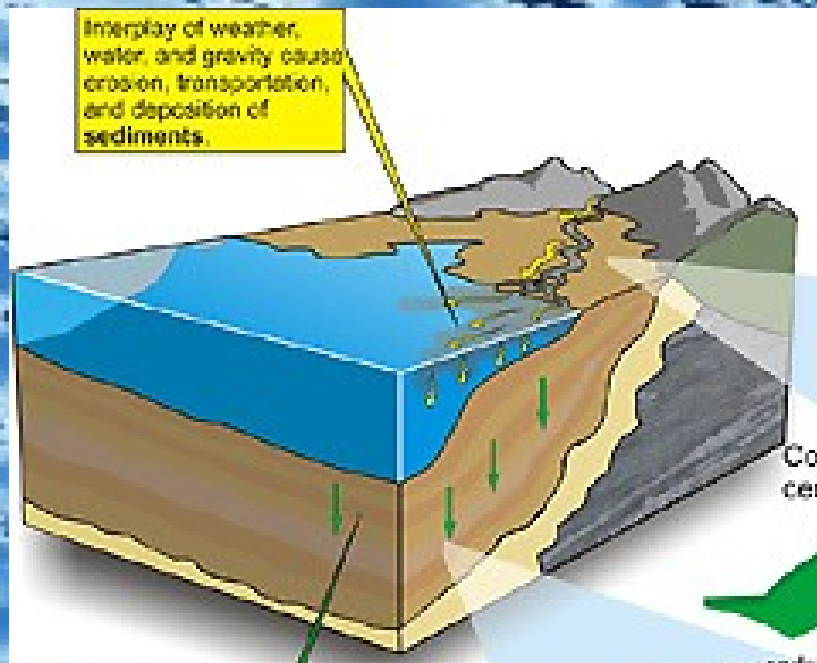
- Millions of years ago, water started to erode the igneous & metamorphic rocks of the Canadian Shield.....

creating what?

**Sediments**



# How has water & ice been involved in creating our Canadian Landforms?



- The sediments collected around the Canadian Shield creating what kind of rock?

**Sedimentary rock**

# How has water & ice been involved in creating our Canadian Landforms?

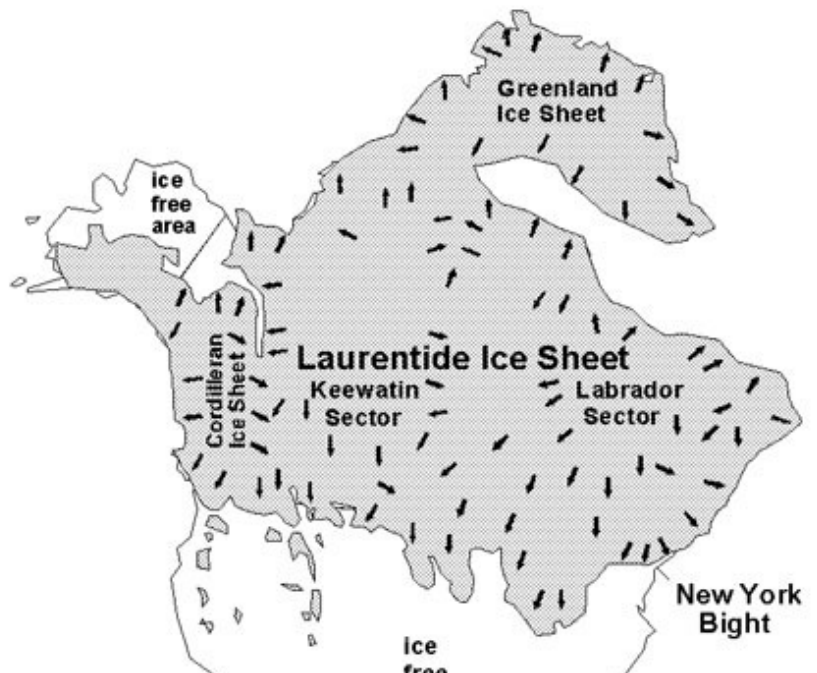


- All the rocks of the landforms around the Canadian Shield were born from its sediments and water erosion millions of years ago. **What other landform was eroded a bit later by water? Appalachians**



# How has water & ice been involved in creating our Canadian Landforms?

Extent of Late Pleistocene  
Glaciation in North America

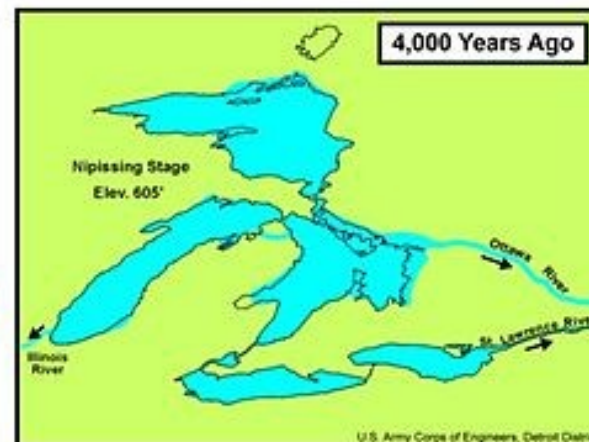


- Thousands of years ago, **glaciers** formed during the ice ages and covered much of Canada. The **grinding action** of the ice & **melting ice** water created features such as.....



# How has water & ice been involved in creating our Canadian Landforms?

- The **Great Lakes** which formed thousands of years ago during the end of the last ice age.



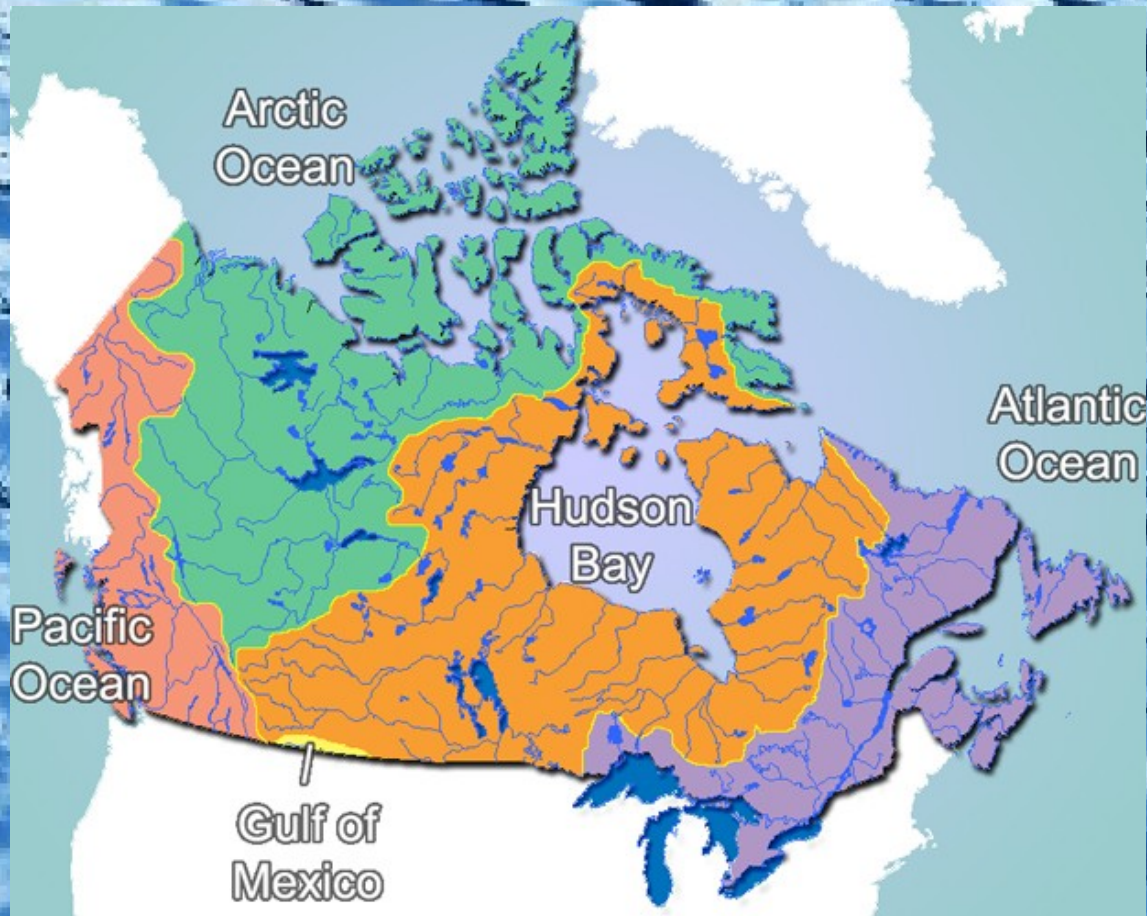
# What are watersheds and where are they?



- **Watersheds** (also known as **drainage basins**) are areas where the rain or snow falling onto this area all flows down (**drains**) into one **water source**, such as a river, lake or ocean.



# What are watersheds and where are they?



- Example of ocean watersheds
- There are 5 major watersheds in Canada

# What are watersheds and where are they?



- Example of a lake watershed

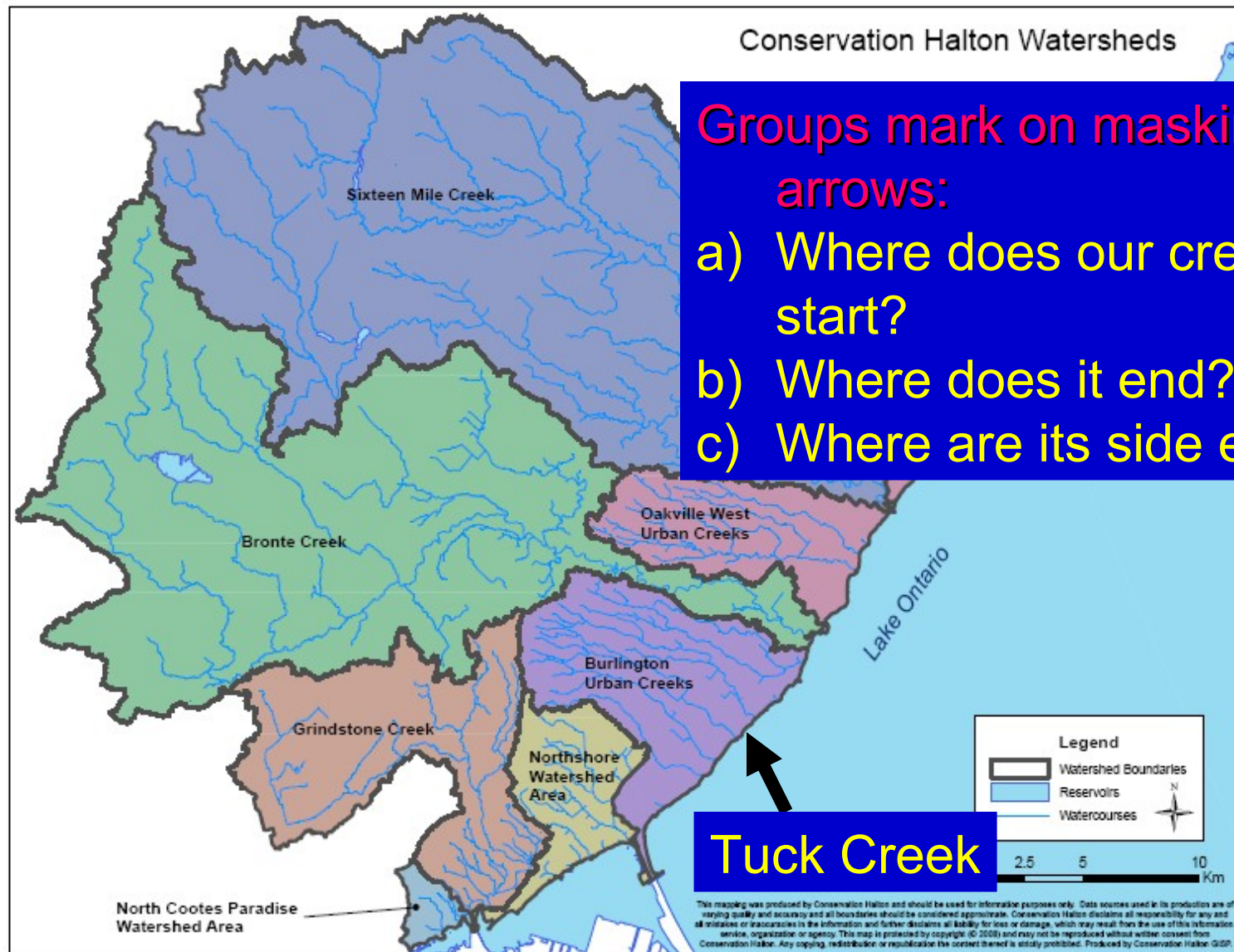


# What are watersheds and where are they?



- Example of a creek & river watershed

# Group work: Look at your large topographic maps to find the Tuck Creek Watershed



Groups mark on masking tape arrows:

- Where does our creek start?
- Where does it end?
- Where are its side edges?

Tuck Creek



# Individual Work & Homework

- Using pg 18 & 19 in the Pearson Atlas, see if you can draw in the lines that separates the 5 drainage basins, on your Canada's river systems map handout. Label them.
- On page 480 of textbook, answer questions 1 to 3 using the diagram on page 479